

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 818

Washington, D. C.

December 21, 1940

## COMMERCIAL VEGETABLES DEFINED

### Agricultural Adjustment Administration Permits States Discretion on Canning Crops

Under a new definition of "commercial vegetables" for the 1941 agricultural conservation program, State committees have been given discretionary authority to remove canning crops, or certain other commercial truck crops, from the classification and limitations of the commercial vegetable acreage allotments set up in certain areas throughout the country. Under previous programs, peas for canning and sweet corn for canning, and in some places during 1939 and 1940, tomatoes for canning, were not included in establishing acreage allotments for farms in commercial vegetable areas.

In the farm program as a whole, the principal change makes available a greater share of the funds to be provided by Congress for use in carrying out approved soil-building practices. Under the program, participating farmers may earn two kinds of payments: (1) for seeding within the farm's soil-depleting acreage allotments, and (2) for carrying out approved soil-building practices.

A soil-building allowance is set up for each farm on the basis of such factors as the farm's cropland, non-crop pastureland, commercial vegetables, and commercial orchards. The participating farmer may earn his farm's allowance by carrying out approved soil-building practices. Because of the larger portion of funds available for these practices, and special provisions that allow local adaptation of the program, and specify minimum conservation standards, the 1941 program offers farmers the opportunity to carry out a more comprehensive conservation program. Local committees will provide growers of canning crops and canners with information on these practices.

The 1941 rates for computing the soil-building allowances, applicable to all farms, including vegetable farms, are slightly higher than the actual 1940 rates. The 1941 rates are 50 cents per acre of cropland in area A (which includes the North Central region, and parts of the Southern and Western regions), and 70 cents per acre of cropland in areas B and C (which include the rest of the country). The rate for commercial orchards is \$1.80. Actual payments are contingent upon the annual appropriation by Congress and are

subject to revision either upward or downward by 10 per cent as an adjustment for participation when final payments are made.

Canning crops will be considered as commercial vegetables unless State committees, with the approval of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, rule otherwise. The 1941 payment rate per acre for seeding within the farm's commercial vegetable acreage allotment will be \$1.30 per acre, compared with the payment last year of \$1.35 per acre.

The areas and counties in which vegetable allotments are set up are determined by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration upon recommendation of the State committees. The definition of commercial vegetables now in effect is as follows:

"Commercial vegetables means the planted acreage of annual vegetable or truck crops and the harvested acreage of perennial vegetables, of which any portion of the production is sold to persons not living on the farm except (1) such crops grown in home gardens for use on the farm; (2) potatoes in commercial potato counties; (3) vegetables for processing in areas where it is determined by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that such vegetables are not sold in direct competition with fresh vegetables and it is administratively practicable to distinguish between crops for processing and for other purposes; (4) dried beans, cowpeas, blackeyed peas, bulbs and flowers, and watermelons; and (5) sweet potatoes, strawberries, and cantaloupes, except in areas designated by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration upon recommendation of the State committee."

## FOOD LAW GUARANTEE

### Proper Interpretation to be Placed on Language in Recommended Form

Numerous inquiries have been received by the Association concerning the effect to be given to the provision in the recommended form of guarantee under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act which recites that

"... provided, however, that the seller does not guarantee against such goods becoming adulterated or misbranded within the meaning of said Act or Acts after shipment, by reason of causes beyond seller's control; and provided also that where goods are shipped under buyer's labels, seller's responsibility for misbranding shall be limited to that resulting from the failure of the product to conform to the label furnished by the buyer. Buyer undertakes to save seller harmless from any liability under said Act or Acts for any other type of misbranding arising out of the use of buyer's labels, or for any liability under said Act or Acts for misbranding where buyer insists upon the use of any label after seller has questioned in writing the use of such label."

In some cases it appears that buyers have furnished to canners private brand labels that are patently not in conformity with the requirements of the law. In a few instances, where the canner has pointed out the lack of conformity, the

### No Information Letter Next Saturday

With Christmas coming in the middle of the week, and the offices of the United States Government closed on both December 24 and 25, there will be no issue of the INFORMATION LETTER on Saturday, December 28. The next issue of the LETTER, therefore, will be dated January 4, 1941.

buyer has taken the position that he can insist upon the use of such label and that the canner is protected by the quoted clause.

This is an unwarranted application of the language in question. As pointed out in the original analysis (INFORMATION LETTER No. 736, April 1, 1939, page 5786), the canner is primarily responsible for any shipment of canned foods that are misbranded. His responsibility arises because he is the person who introduces the misbranded product into interstate commerce. Not only may the goods be seized, but the canner, as the shipper, is criminally responsible in the event of penal prosecution. Thus, where a label furnished by the buyer clearly and patently is not in conformity with the Act—in that it fails to include all of the information required by the law or by any promulgated standard of identity or standard of quality—the canner is prohibited from using it under any circumstances. The fact that the buyer insists upon such use can in no way exculpate him from penal responsibility, and the italicized language was not intended to cover this situation.

The purpose of the clause in question was to cover those cases in which reasonable doubt exists as to the legality or illegality of a particular label—where, for example, the placement of required information, relative prominence, or propriety of vignette representation, etc., was questioned—and the buyer indicated that he was satisfied that his label was proper and insisted upon its use. In such cases, where differences of legal interpretation on such minor questions may reasonably exist, the quoted language provides that if the buyer insists upon the use of the label, he shall be financially responsible in the event of seizure, required relabeling, etc.

As already noted, this provision is wholly inapplicable in cases of clear omissions of required information, and obviously no contract provision between private parties can in any way affect the responsibility of either the shipper or receiver of a misbranded product in the event that the government concludes that criminal prosecution is warranted.

#### **Canning Machinery Association to Honor Five Men**

Five men, who have given outstanding service to the canning industry, will be given honorary memberships in the Canning Machinery & Supplies Association at the annual meeting on Tuesday morning, January 21, according to an announcement by S. G. Gorsline, secretary of the Association. The men are: Dr. Samuel Prescott, Dean of Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Dr. Walter Eddy, Good Housekeeping Institute; Dr. A. W. Bitting, consulting food technologist; E. H. Temple, formerly executive, American Can Co.; and E. E. Appleton, American Can Co.

#### **Citrus Culture in California**

Information on a number of the factors involved in the production of citrus fruits is contained in a recent publication issued by the California Agricultural Extension Service entitled "Citrus Culture in California", Circular 114. The rootstock problem in connection with varieties of lemons, oranges, and grapefruit now in use in California is discussed, together with details of orchard management, fertilizers, covercrops, irrigation, diseases and insects, and harvesting.

### **ARMY PURCHASES DISCUSSED**

#### **Principles of Procurement of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Outlined**

Douglas MacKeachie, assistant coordinator of purchases for the National Defense Commission, and Col. Paul P. Logan of the Quartermaster Corps, outlined the principles of Army procurement to a meeting of representatives of the fresh fruit and vegetable trades in Washington on December 17. At the meeting, acute problems confronting the Army in some areas concerning its purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables were discussed. Advice and assistance of the leaders in the trade were assured when representatives at the meeting appointed a sub-committee to cooperate in the development of a program and in the selection of personnel for orderly purchasing and distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables for Army cantonments.

Among the principles of Army procurement outlined by Mr. MacKeachie and Colonel Logan, the following were of special interest to the fresh fruit and vegetable industry:

- (1) The Army needs and welcomes assistance in developing an efficient procurement program through which fruits and vegetables can be obtained at fair prices making use of the present system of competitive bidding.
- (2) It is desirable and essential that any Army procurement program have the minimum of impact on the civilian market.
- (3) All available channels, large and small, will be given an opportunity to share in the purchasing for military forces.
- (4) Local growers adjacent to Army camps will be given first consideration in fresh produce purchases.
- (5) Full consideration will be given to surplus agricultural commodities and Army purchasing will, insofar as possible, be coordinated with the Surplus Marketing Administration program.
- (6) Fresh fruits and vegetables should and will be included in Army rations to the extent that they can be procured at prices which will permit their use within the limit of the government ration allowance provided in established Army regulations. It must be recognized, however, that the lack of a proper procurement system for fresh produce would necessitate the substitution of canned fruits and vegetables in the Army rations.

#### **Farm Bureau Urges Extension of Marketing Act**

The American Farm Bureau Federation last week, at its annual convention held in Baltimore, again adopted a resolution urging the extension of the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act to any and all farm products. The resolution further stated that it is essential that control be retained by producers in the development and operation of marketing programs.

In contrast with the resolution adopted in 1939 by the Federation on the subject of marketing agreements, the resolution this year does not specifically urge the extension of the order provisions of the Act to all commodities. However, the position of the Farm Bureau on the question of extending the scope of the order provisions of the Act to canning crops is well known and canners may expect the introduction of legislation similar to the Gillette and Jones bills in the next Congress.

### Canadian Requirements for Tomato Paste

It has come to the Association's attention that there may be some misunderstanding on the part of American packers of tomato paste with reference to regulations applying to the sale of this product in Canada.

Tomato paste is defined by the Meat and Canned Foods Act of Canada as being prepared from the concentration of clean, sound tomatoes, or trimmings from such, that have been sorted and thoroughly washed before peeling. No provision is made for baking soda as an optional ingredient, although this ingredient is permitted by the standard of identity under the U. S. Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Artificial flavor is not permitted in Canada, although a letter from the Department of Agriculture in Ottawa states there is no objection to the use of pure basil leaf in tomato products. Color permitted by the Canadian authorities may be added if declared.

In the event of doubt, canners who export tomato paste to Canada should provide full information as to the composition of the product so that it may be determined whether it is in compliance with the Canadian regulations.

### Defense Adviser from Fresh Food Industry

Donald M. Nelson, Coordinator of National Defense Purchases, announced Thursday the appointment of John A. Martin, General Manager of the Wesco Foods Co., as special adviser on the procurement of fresh fruits and vegetables. The appointment calls for his services to assist in reorganizing the fresh fruit and vegetable procurement of the Army to meet the increased procurement program on these items, particularly in cantonments which are far distant from terminal markets.

Mr. Martin's first official act was to call a meeting for Monday, December 16, 1940, of those members of the Food Procurement Advisory Committee, appointed by the industry in November, representing the fresh fruit and vegetable section.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss plans for organizing an efficient procurement service. Mr. Martin, in calling the meeting, stressed that plans would include utilizing all existing services for the distribution of fruits and vegetables.

### Complaints Issued Against Other Sardine Packers

Complaints were issued this week against five additional sardine canning plants in Maine by the Federal Trade Commission, alleging violation of the brokerage provision of the Robinson-Patman Act.

Respondents are: Royal Packing Corporation, Yarmouth, Me.; Belfast Packing Company, Belfast; North Lubec Manufacturing & Canning Company, North Lubec; Union Sardine Company, Lubec; and Booth Fisheries Corporation, Chicago, operating a sardine business through its subsidiary, Booth Fisheries Sardine Company, which has its principal office at Eastport and its canning plant at Lubec, Me.

The allegations are identical with those in the complaints issued recently against eight sardine packers and reported on page 6368 of the INFORMATION LETTER for November 2, 1940.

### Evaluation of Association's Publications

The publications of the National Canners Association have been analyzed for their usefulness and suitability in courses in consumer education by Paul L. Salsgiver, associate professor of Commercial Education, Boston University, in his monograph "Sources of Supplementary Materials for Courses in Consumer Education" recently published. The monograph is an evaluation of many consumer agencies, including government, women's organizations, and trade associations, and the services available from these agencies.

The monograph is published by the South-Western Publishing Co. of Cincinnati, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, and Dallas.

The evaluation of the Association's publications is as follows:

#### ORGANIZATION FACTS

The National Canners Association, through its Research Laboratories, conducts disinterested research with regard to canned foods, the results of which the Home Economics Division makes available to consumers. Its publications are well-written, interesting, and very informative. They are well adapted to use in the secondary schools.

#### ILLUSTRATIVE PUBLICATIONS

Most of the published material is of such a nature as to be very useful to the home economics department only, although "The Story of the Canning Industry" and "The Story of the Tin Can" (small pamphlets) could be made useful in the economic geography class as well. The majority of the large number of pamphlets available through the Association, however, are in the form of recipe booklets for everyday use or for special occasions, or information concerning the various canned foods available to the consumer. All material is available free of charge upon request, and should find a place in the home economics classroom.

Illustrative of the Association's publications, in addition to the above, are "Christmas Dinner"; "What to Have—Any Day, Any Meal, Any Course"; "Information for the Canned Foods Shopper"; "Tempting Recipes for Canned Foods"; "Canned Peaches"; etc.

### F. T. C. Issues Order Against Corn Refiner

Union Starch & Refining Co. and its sales subsidiary, Union Sales Corporation, Columbus, Ind., with a corn refining plant at Granite City, Ill., have been ordered by the Federal Trade Commission to cease and desist from price discriminations in violation of the Robinson-Patman Act in the sale of glucose or corn syrup unmixed. This syrup, one of the principal products derived in the refining of corn, is used as a major raw material in the manufacture of candy.

The press statement of the Commission summarizes the findings as follows:

"According to findings, the respondents, by selling their syrup at the different prices as found (the differences between which prices have not been justified by the respondents), have discriminated in prices between such purchasers who have paid the different prices.

"Commission findings are that the respondents' policy has been to sell and deliver their syrup in several sizes and types of containers at prices per hundredweight which increase over the tank car price per hundredweight according to the size and type of container."



### Order Issued Against Container Institute

The Federal Trade Commission has issued an order requiring the Cup and Container Institute, Inc., 420 Lexington Ave., New York, eight of its officers and directors, and twelve corporations controlling more than 60 per cent of the national output and sale of products of the paper drinking cup and paper food container industry, to cease and desist from a combination and conspiracy to restrain trade through the fixing and maintaining of uniform or minimum prices. A brief summary of the complaint issued against the institute, officers, and the corporations, appeared in the INFORMATION LETTER of February 24, 1940, page 6106.

The Commission's order, among other matters, directs the respondent corporations to discontinue adhering to a schedule of uniform prices and uniform discounts, terms and conditions of sale, including maximum discounts, cease maintaining identical price lists on comparable products, desist from changing simultaneously the price for comparable products; cease filing, pursuant to agreement, a schedule of prices, including discounts and the terms and conditions of sale; cease agreeing not to deviate from their prices filed with the respondent institute, including discounts and terms and conditions of sale; and discontinue notifying the respondent institute of any deviations from the filed prices by anyone.

### House Upholds Veto of Walter-Logan Bill

The President's veto of the Walter-Logan bill on December 18 was sustained by the House of Representatives the same day when proponents of the measure failed to get the necessary two-thirds majority. The vote was 153 to 128.

The bill would have provided for a uniform procedure in the issuance of rules, regulations, and orders by the various government agencies; for a uniform system of administrative appeals; and for a uniform method of court review of Federal rules, regulations, orders, and decisions.

In support of his veto action, the President in his message to the House stated that "quite apart from the general philosophy of this bill, its unintentional inclusion of defense functions would require my disapproval at this time."

He assigned as another reason for his action a desire to await the report and recommendations of the Attorney General's committee on administrative procedure before approving any measure "in this complicated field."

### Coal-Tar Regulations Compiled and Published

The text of the regulations, promulgated under authority of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of 1938, for the listing and certification of harmless coal-tar colors, has been published by the Federal Security Agency. Included are lists and specifications of coal-tar colors for use in foods, drugs, and cosmetics.

The publication is identified as Food and Drug Administration, Service and Regulatory Announcements, Food, Drug, and Cosmetic No. 3, Coal-Tar Color Regulations, and can be obtained from the Food and Drug Administration, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C.

### Stocks and Shipments of Pitted Red Cherries

Stocks of both No. 2 and No. 10 cans of pitted red cherries on December 1, 1940, were larger than on December 1, 1939, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. Shipments for November of this year also were larger than a year ago. However, shipments for the period July 1 to December 1 were larger in 1939 than in 1940.

The table below shows comparable figures of stocks and shipments for these dates:

	1939		1940	
	No. 2's	No. 10's	No. 2's	No. 10's
Stocks December 1.....	451,759	323,271	878,003	503,711
Shipments for November.....	73,913	44,012	98,740	70,648
Shipments July 1 to December 1..	1,566,929	788,023	1,112,535	764,200

The following table shows stocks on December 1, 1940, in canners' hands and shipments for November by regions and can sizes:

	24/2's	6/10's	Misc.	Total
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
New York and Pennsylvania:				
Stocks: sold not shipped.....	51,902	43,052	10,843	105,797
Stocks: unsold.....	52,267	22,702	5,791	80,760
Stocks: total.....	104,169	65,754	16,634	186,557
Shipments for November.....	23,557	9,649	5,482	38,688
Michigan, Wisconsin, and Ohio:				
Stocks: sold not shipped.....	110,447	73,611	6,814	190,872
Stocks: unsold.....	626,809	234,125	27,286	888,230
Stocks: total.....	737,256	307,736	34,100	1,079,092
Shipments for November.....	70,275	42,819	637	113,731
Western States:				
Stocks: sold not shipped.....	18,689	43,100	7,608	69,397
Stocks: unsold.....	17,889	87,121	4,536	109,546
Stocks: total.....	36,578	130,221	12,144	178,943
Shipments for November.....	4,908	18,180	6,368	29,456
Total United States:				
Stocks: sold not shipped.....	181,038	159,763	25,265	366,066
Stocks: unsold.....	696,965	343,948	37,613	1,078,526
Stocks: total.....	878,003	503,711	62,878	1,444,592
Shipments for November.....	98,740	70,648	12,487	181,875

### High Standard for Canning Beans Set

According to a recent statement from the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, the "ideal" snap bean New York canners have asked plant breeders to develop for that State must be a variety that is a bright brilliant green in color, intermediate between the Blue Lake and Stringless Refugee; it must produce straight, stringless, round-podded, fleshy beans; it must have a white or nearly white seed; the plant must be of the bush type; and the strain must be mosaic-resistant and a good yielder.

It is such a bean that plant breeders are asked to use as a standard by which to judge existing strains and new introductions. Experimental packs recently examined at Geneva by a special committee included the new mosaic-resistant strains of the Refugee bean now being grown extensively in the State, the old type Refugee, promising new strains of mosaic-resistant Refugee still being grown under test numbers of seedsmen, pole beans of the Blue Lake type, and six varieties of edible soybeans. All of the experimental packs were available both as cut beans and as the whole pack style.

Of the collection, none quite measured up to the conception of the "ideal" snap bean for New York State, although some improvement over existing strains was noted, indicating that progress in the desired direction is being made by the plant breeders.

### Stocks and Shipments of Canned Peas

Stocks of canned peas in canners' hands on December 1, 1940, were about 1,800,000 cases larger than on the corresponding date in 1939, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. Shipments during November 1940 were about 500,000 cases larger than shipments during November 1939, and shipments during the five-month period, June 1 to December 1, were over 2,500,000 cases larger in 1940 than in 1939.

The following table gives comparisons of stocks and shipments:

	1939 Cases	1940 Cases
Total Stocks December 1.....	11,374,485	13,095,010
Shipments during November.....	1,458,885	2,039,828
Shipments June 1 to December 1.....	12,378,111	14,911,637

The table below gives detailed reports by regions and varieties of stocks on December 1 and shipments during specified periods:

	Stocks December 1		Shipments during November		Shipments June 1 to November 1	
	1939 Cases	1940 Cases	1939 Cases	1940 Cases	1939-40 Cases	1940-41 Cases
N. Y. and Me.:						
Alaskan.....	85,224	73,601	7,268	13,508	58,399	120,700
Sweets.....	988,326	1,143,958	141,920	145,639	882,428	1,254,782
Mid-Atlantic:						
Alaskan.....	200,035	446,468	85,731	127,083	1,149,291	1,670,891
Sweets.....	106,798	180,170	14,883	107,714	156,743	399,902
Mid-West:						
Alaskan.....	2,610,868	4,088,052	429,124	692,608	3,757,903	4,685,434
Sweets.....	3,652,812	4,229,026	312,829	441,121	3,131,105	3,434,031
Western:						
Alaskan.....	15,171	5,772	4,172	2,723	142,008	85,314
Sweets.....	3,715,251	2,927,963	462,958	509,432	3,100,234	3,254,583
Total U. S.:						
Alaskan.....	2,911,298	4,613,893	526,295	835,922	5,107,601	6,568,339
Sweets.....	8,463,187	8,481,117	932,590	1,203,906	7,270,510	8,343,298

### Japan's Canned Seafood Exports Decrease

Japan's export trade in canned seafood has suffered considerably during the current year as a result of the loss of important European markets, according to the Foodstuffs Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce. In many instances the decline has resulted from the exchange controls and import restrictions imposed by the sterling-bloc countries following the outbreak of hostilities. Toward the close of the first half of 1940, however, many important markets were actually inaccessible owing to the spread of hostilities to the Mediterranean and Red Sea areas. Heavy speculative purchases by American buyers, and the consequent overstocked position of certain Japanese canned seafood in the United States were primarily responsible for lower shipments to this country during the first six months of 1940.

Shipments of canned salmon and trout were well maintained during the last half of 1939 and the first half of 1940, in face of the difficulties in making shipments to various countries in the European war zone and to countries operating under strict exchange control. But the latest trade reports on export prospects for canned salmon are far from optimistic. Prolongation of the European war would force Japanese salmon canners to seek new export markets, or to greatly curtail their activities.

During the first eight months of 1940, 726,814 cases of salmon and trout were inspected for export (including Kamchatka). These inspection figures are indicative of the actual production during this period, and are submitted in lieu of data regarding the 1940 pack, concerning which no information is available.

### Stocks and Shipments of Canned Sweet Corn

Stocks of canned sweet corn in canners' hands on December 1, 1940, were close to 3,000,000 cases less than on December 1, 1939, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. Shipments during November 1940 were somewhat larger than during the corresponding month of 1939, although shipments during the four-month period, August 1 to December 1, were about 800,000 cases less in 1940 than in 1939.

The table below shows comparisons of stocks and shipments of certain dates:

	Cases
Stocks	
December 1, 1940.....	11,298,977
November 1, 1940.....	13,167,169
December 1, 1939.....	14,027,893
Shipments during:	
November 1940.....	1,868,192
November 1939.....	1,569,440
August 1, 1940 to December 1, 1940.....	7,858,489
August 1, 1939 to December 1, 1940.....	8,616,836

The following table shows stocks of canned corn in canners' hands on December 1, 1940, by regions and varieties:

	Eastern States	Western States
Cream style:	Cases	Cases
Evergreen.....	500,971	582,722
Narrow Grain.....	196,366	498,764
Country Gentleman.....	69,588	1,101,790
Crosby.....	75,352	46,616
Bantam Golden.....	1,259,285	1,962,027
Whole kernel:		
Bantam Golden.....	773,441	3,436,036
White.....	434,799	271,220
Total.....	3,399,802	7,899,175
Corn on the cob.....	39,580	244,776

### Stocks and Shipments of Green and Wax Beans

Total stocks of canned green and wax beans in canners' hands on December 1, 1940, amounted to 4,623,934 actual cases, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. Comparable figures of stocks on December 1, 1939, are not available. There were 3,957,632 cases of green beans, and 666,302 cases of wax beans in canners' hands on December 1, 1940.

Shipments during the month of November, totalled 1,063,371 cases; including 908,876 cases of green beans, and 154,495 cases of wax beans.

Shipments during the five-month period, July 1 to December 1, 1940, amounted to a total of 5,334,294 cases; comprising 4,543,058 cases of green beans and 791,236 cases of wax beans.

The following table shows figures by regions on the December 1, 1940, stocks, and the shipments during November and the five-month cumulative total:

Region	Stocks Dec. 1, 1940 Cases	Shipments Nov. 1940 Cases	Shipments July 1 to Dec. 1, 1940 Cases
GREEN BEANS:			
Northeast.....	452,117	91,105	418,568
Middle Atlantic.....	857,299	147,556	1,149,479
Mid-West.....	610,176	174,072	766,033
Western.....	1,390,505	375,083	1,424,438
Southern.....	647,535	121,060	784,540
Total green.....	3,957,632	908,876	4,543,058
WAX BEANS:			
Northeast.....	279,754	56,797	266,115
Middle Atlantic.....	72,137	22,225	110,620
Mid-West.....	251,078	73,184	361,856
Western.....	63,333	2,289	49,170
Southern.....			3,475
Total wax.....	666,302	154,495	791,236

### Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

#### Carlot Shipments as Reported to the Agricultural Marketing Service by Common Carriers

Carlot shipments of snap and lima beans and of fresh fruits other than citrus were the only fresh commodities competing with canned foods that showed increases during the week ending December 14, 1940, as compared with the corresponding week of 1939.

The following table, compiled from statistics of the Agricultural Marketing Service, gives detailed comparisons of carlot shipments on certain dates of selected vegetables and fruits:

VEGETABLES	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Dec. 14, 1939	Dec. 14, 1940	Dec. 7, 1940	Dec. 14, 1939	Dec. 14, 1940
Beans, snap and lima.....	81	210	163	7,948	6,165
Tomatoes.....	339	310	276	28,908	22,464
Green peas.....	150	73	60	7,727	6,351
Spinach.....	308	191	230	819	662
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly.....	1,611	1,341	1,199	35,550	31,305
Imports competing directly.....	16	17	.....	3,241	2,724
Imports competing indirectly.....	84	80	62	1,278	1,059
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic.....	5,383	4,254	4,558	32,830	28,057
Others, domestic.....	149	157	479	16,411	15,328

### Stocks of Canned Tomatoes on December 1

Stocks of canned tomatoes in canners' hands on December 1, 1940, amounted to 14,103,999 actual cases, compared with 12,567,550 cases on December 1, 1939, according to figures compiled by the Association's Division of Statistics. The total for 1940 is based on reports from about 73 per cent of the canners who packed tomatoes in 1940, together with estimates for those not reporting. Owing to the fact that a larger percentage of these estimates were for the Ozark territory, the figure for that region in the table below is shown in round numbers.

The following table shows by regions the stocks in canners' hands on December 1, 1939 and 1940:

Region	Stocks December 1	
	1939	1940
	Cases	Cases
Northeast.....	1,041,224	594,866
Middle Atlantic.....	4,064,500	4,197,000
Mid-West.....	3,909,500	3,106,912
Tennessee and Kentucky.....	150,400	379,566
Ozark territory.....	930,000	2,000,000
Western.....	637,500	833,728
Southern.....	69,200	127,209
Total (excluding California).....	10,763,384	11,239,881
California.....	1,774,166	2,864,118
Total U. S.....	12,567,550	14,103,999

### James Young Leaves Commerce Department Post

An indefinite leave of absence has been granted James W. Young, Director of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce since September 1939, who leaves the Commerce Department to carry out his duties as chairman of the Communications Division in the office of Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations between the American Republics. Carroll L. Wilson, Assistant Director of the Bureau, will become Acting Director.

### British Increase South African Citrus Purchases

Indications are that the British Government is importing a larger volume of citrus fruit from South Africa than it originally undertook to purchase, according to the Food-stuffs Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce. The Union's total export citrus crop at the beginning of the current season amounted to 4,600,000 cases, of which 3,200,000 cases were earmarked for the United Kingdom. At the close of September more than 3,000,000 cases, representing 65 per cent of South Africa's total citrus crop, had been shipped, and more than 2,000,000 cases had already arrived in the United Kingdom. Since that time it is estimated that 850,000 cases have gone forward to the British market.

The citrus fruit exported to the United Kingdom is being sold at the maximum prices fixed by the British Government, which are considerably higher than those realized during the past six months.

### British Cut Canned Herring Orders from Canada

The British Columbian fishing industry earlier in the year reported the receipt of orders from the United Kingdom for approximately 1,500,000 cases of canned herring, according to the American consulate general at Vancouver. However, subsequent information indicated that these exports would be limited to 800,000 cases, and measures are being taken to keep the volume of the canned herring pack within this figure.

### Complaint Against Baking Company Dismissed

The Federal Trade Commission has issued an order dismissing a complaint which had charged the General Baking Company, 420 Lexington Ave., New York, with violation of the Robinson-Patman Act in the sale of bread. The Commission entered its order because it appeared that the allegations of the complaint had not been sustained by the evidence.

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